

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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CROPS

WINTER WHEAT condition as of December 15 was reported as 11% excellent, 62% good, 24% fair, and 3% poor. Wheat conditions remained mostly good across the State with the exception of the West-Southwest District which is mostly fair. Snow cover over much of Illinois has proved beneficial for wheat particularly with the recent unseasonably cold temperatures. Many farmers expressed concern over the shortage of moisture as the wheat crop went into winter dormancy.

SOIL MOISTURE on December 15 was reported as 77% short and 23% adequate. The Northeast District is the only District reporting mostly adequate moisture supplies while the remaining districts are mostly short. The frozen ground conditions will prevent absorption of moisture to improve sub-soil moisture supplies, although surface moisture supplies should improve with snow melt.

LIVESTOCK across the State are in mostly good condition. The recent downturn in temperatures has increased feed consumption demands of livestock. Snow cover has caused livestock producers to begin supplemental feeding animals which were grazing stubble fields. Hay supplies were reported to be adequate with hay quality being mostly good. Many farmers have finished movement of their grain for this year and are awaiting the new year to begin.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

District	Winter Wheat Condition				Soil		
					Moisture Percent		
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Short	Adq.	Surplus
	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
As of December 15							
Northwest	5	70	25	0	95	5	0
Northeast	15	70	10	5	45	55	0
West	5	60	35	0	100	0	0
Central	10	60	30	0	100	0	0
East	0	85	15	0	60	40	0
W Southwest	5	35	45	15	90	10	0
E Southeast	0	70	30	0	75	25	0
Southwest	30	70	0	0	65	35	0
Southeast	10	65	25	0	65	35	0
State	11	62	24	3	77	23	0

PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVGS. AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
December	0.85	2.12	0.80	1.27	1.60	1.11	2.06	1.28	1.88	1.44
Departure	-1.33	-0.06	-1.37	-0.97	-0.81	-1.46	-1.10	-2.19	-0.85	-1.13

NOVEMBER WEATHER SUMMARY

ILLINOIS RECORDED NORMAL TEMPERATURES AND BELOW NORMAL PRECIPITATION. ILLINOIS AVERAGE MONTHLY TEMPERATURE WAS NORMAL, AS TEMPERATURES RANGED 2 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL TO 2 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL. THE COOLEST PORTION OF THE STATE WAS THE NORTHEAST, WHILE THE WARMEST AREA WAS IN THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT (NEAR ST. LOUIS). THIS IS THE SAME PATTERN AS LAST MONTH. THE WARMEST PART OF THE MONTH CAME DURING MID-MONTH. MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES CLIMBED INTO THE 70'S AND 80'S. LIKE LAST MONTH, THE TOWN OF CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO (WHICH IS ACROSS THE RIVER FROM THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT), RECORDED ONE OF THE HIGHEST MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES OF 85 DEGREES ON THE 12TH. A COLD PERIOD DEVELOPED DURING THE END OF THE MONTH, WITH LOWS DROPPING TO NEAR THE ZERO DEGREE MARK IN THE NORTH AND THE 20'S IN THE SOUTH. THE STATION NEAR THE TOWN OF ELIZABETH, WHICH IS IN THE NORTHWEST DISTRICT, RECORDED ONE OF THE LOWEST READINGS IN THE STATE (4 DEGREES ON THE 29TH).

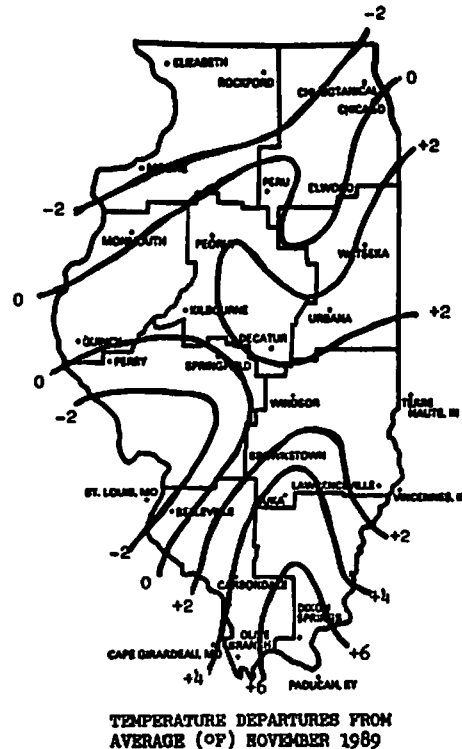
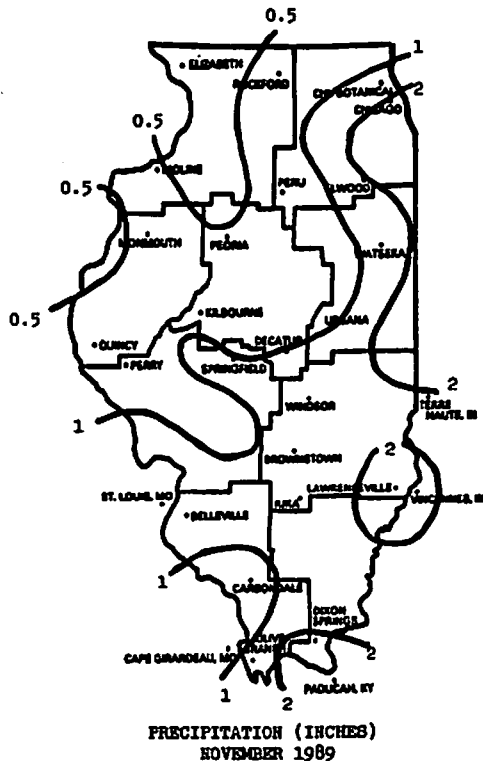
PRECIPITATION AVERAGED BELOW NORMAL IN THE STATE (-1.13 INCHES BELOW NORMAL). THE LARGEST BELOW NORMAL VARIATION WAS IN THE SOUTHWEST DISTRICT (-2.19 INCHES BELOW NORMAL). MOST OF THE HEAVIEST PRECIPITATION FELL DURING MID-MONTH. THE TOWN OF LAWRENCEVILLE, WHICH IS IN THE EAST-SOUTHEAST DISTRICT, RECEIVED THE LARGEST RAINFALL MONTHLY TOTAL WITH 2.92 INCHES. THIS WAS DUE TO A STORM ON THE 16TH WHICH DELUGED THE AREA WITH 2.18 INCHES OF RAIN.

THE HEAVIEST SNOW FELL ON THE 22ND IN THE NORTHEAST PORTION OF THE STATE.

THE OUTLOOK FOR THE REMAINDER OF DECEMBER IS FOR TEMPERATURES TO BE BELOW NORMAL AND PRECIPITATION TO BE NEAR NORMAL.

THE 90-DAY OUTLOOK FROM DECEMBER THROUGH FEBRUARY IS FOR TEMPERATURES NEAR NORMAL AND PRECIPITATION WILL BE ABOVE NORMAL.

Summary provided by The National Weather Service Cooperative Observers
NOAA, Rosemont, Illinois

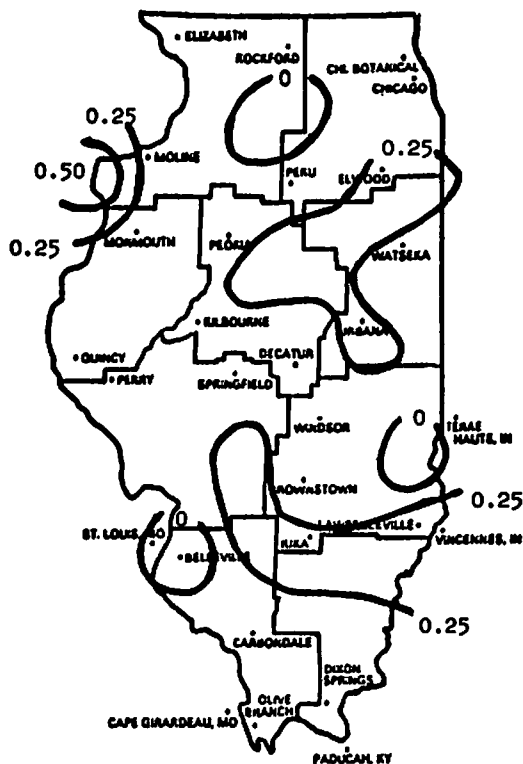


WEATHER

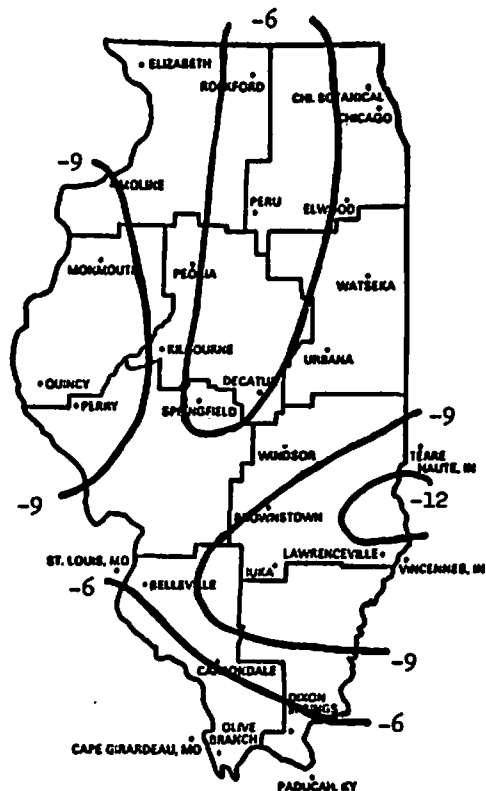
THE FIRST HALF OF DECEMBER BROUGHT A SHARP CHANGE TO COLDER THAN NORMAL TEMPERATURES AS THE JET STREAM GUIDED CANADIAN AND ARTIC AIR MASSES SOUTH INTO THE MIDWEST. DAILY HIGHS AVERAGED FROM THE LOWER 30'S NORTH TO AROUND 40 TO THE MID 40'S SOUTH. THESE READINGS WERE MOSTLY 3 TO 7 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL ACROSS THE STATE. LOWS AVERAGED FROM THE TEENS NORTH TO THE TEENS AND LOWER 20'S SOUTH WHICH WAS MOSTLY 6 TO 13 DEGREES BELOW NORMAL ACROSS ILLINOIS.

COLDEST READINGS WERE IN THE NORTH WITH SUBZERO READINGS IN THE TEENS REPORTED. PRECIPITATION TOTALS, WATER EQUIVALENT, AVERAGED MOSTLY AROUND 0.35 INCH OR LESS. THIS WAS MUCH BELOW NORMAL, BY 0.70 TO NEAR 2.00 INCHES ACROSS THE STATE.

Information above provided by Midwest Agricultural Weather Service Center
Purdue University, West LaFayette, Indiana 47907



PRECIPITATION (INCHES)
DEC. 1-15, 1989



TEMPERATURE DEPARTURES FROM
AVERAGE (°F) DEC. 1-15, 1989

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CROP INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by
county officials of Extension Service and SCS, and agribusiness managers.